

Agency Activity Inventory by Agency

Appropriation Period: 2003-05 Activity Version: 2004 Sup w/ Alloc & Activities

Agency: 082 - Public Disclosure Commission

Agency Administration

Agency Administration provides administrative and management support to the Public Disclosure Commission.

Statewide Result Area: Improve the ability of State Government to achieve its results efficiently and effectively

Category: Provide accountability and oversight of government

FY 2004				FY 2005			
Total	GFS	Other	FTEs	Total	GFS	Other	FTEs
\$249,706	\$249,706	\$0	2.8	\$245,731	\$245,731	\$0	2.8

Enforcement of Public Disclosure Laws

The Public Disclosure Commission monitors whether persons subject to public disclosure laws file timely reports and comply with other provisions of the law. The agency reviews approximately 70 complaints from the public annually, the vast majority relating to provisions of the campaign financing statutes. The commission initiates investigations, produces reports, and enforces the public disclosure laws, including hearing enforcement cases and imposing penalties on violators.

Statewide Result Area: Improve the ability of State Government to achieve its results efficiently and effectively

Category: Provide accountability and oversight of government

FY 2004				FY 2005			
Total	GFS	Other	FTEs	Total	GFS	Other	FTEs
\$400,264	\$400,264	\$0	3.8	\$440,075	\$440,075	\$0	4.4

Expected Results:

PDC has two enforcement related performance measures: 1) Percentage of candidates, political committees, lobbyists, and public officials who meet statutory filing deadlines. Outcomes: FY02 - 90 percent, FY03 - 93 percent. 2) Number and percentage of routine investigations completed within 90 days. In addition to overseeing compliance with filing deadlines, PDC also receives annually approximately 70 complaints of alleged violations from the public. The agency is working to decrease the amount of time it takes to bring complaints to resolution by instituting a case tracking system that sets a 90-day goal for completion of routine investigations. The agency must take into account interruptions caused by 45-day letter investigations (see RCW 42.17.400) and the fact that enforcement staff have other duties, including assisting filers to comply with the law, which accounts for at least 50 percent of their work time. Between January and June 2003, the 90-day goal was realized in 72 percent of the cases.

Provide Public Access to Certain Campaign, Lobbying and Financial Information

The Public Disclosure Commission (PDC) provides full and timely public access to reliable political finance data by maintaining a secure, comprehensive website, and developing and maintaining electronic filing alternatives for campaigns, lobbyists, lobbyist employers, and personal financial affairs filers. The agency assists filers in fulfilling statutory reporting requirements, including mandatory electronic filing, by providing training, instructional manuals, help screens, and telephone and e-mail assistance. Commission staff enters, reviews, and maintains data required of campaigns, lobbyists, lobbyist employers, and others required to submit statements, to ensure the uniformity and accuracy of the data.

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Statewide Result Area: Improve the ability of State Government to achieve its results efficiently and effectively

Category: Facilitate citizen involvement in government

FY 2004				FY 2005			
Total	GFS	Other	FTEs	Total	GFS	Other	FTEs
\$1,147,030	\$1,147,030	\$0	17.9	\$1,114,194	\$1,114,194	\$0	17.3

Expected Results:

According to RCW 42.17.461, copies of campaign and lobbying disclosure reports, or data from those reports, filed electronically are to be available on the PDC's web site within two business days of receipt by the agency. In fact, data from electronically filed reports are immediately available and images of these reports are accessible within 15 minutes of being sent by the filer. For campaigns and lobbyists filing on paper, copies of the reports or data are to be available within four business days of receipt. Actual performance shows that images of paper reports are Internet-accessible the same day the reports are received, and data from selected campaigns are also entered by PDC staff within an average of two days.

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